



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of Marine Safety

## Interview Summary

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**Date:** February 11, 2007

**Location:** On board M/V Kition; Baton Rouge, LA

**Person Interviewed:** Ric Sysing, Third Officer

**Interview Conducted By:** W.R. Woody

Mr. Sysing was interviewed concerning the collision of the M/V Kition with the bridge pier of the I-10 highway bridge at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which occurred on February 10, 2007. (DCA07FM013) The text that follows is not a verbatim record of the conversation. It has been developed from my handwritten notes of the conversation and is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

Mr. Sysing was provided a copy of the interview summary for review.

### INTERVIEW

Mr. Sysing stated that he was on the stern in charge of three crewmembers taking in the after mooring lines. He was responding to orders from the master received by radio. He stated that his men experience no problems taking in the lines. He stated that the last line taken in was the spring line, and that no problem was encountered in taking in this line or any other lines. He stated that when all lines were in the ship moved away from the pier out to about 10 meters, while remaining parallel to the pier, and then started turning to the right. He stated that he then looked over the starboard side and saw two tugs pushing on the stern of the vessel.

Mr. Sysing provided a sketch of the mooring lines used to hold the vessel at the berth.

**Personal Information:** Mr. Sysing, age 40, was from the Republic of the Philippines. He had been going to sea for 15 years, He said he felt fine and was not taking any medications and did not wear glasses. This was the first time he had been on a ship moored at the Apex dock.

### END OF INTERVIEW

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W. R. Woody  
Marine Accident Investigator